GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:750
ANSWERED ON:29.02.2000
GOVERNMENT ACCOMMODATION TO POLITICAL PARTIES
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH;RAM PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allotted accommodation to politicians, their family members, political parties and social institutions in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria fixed for such allotments;

(d) whether the Government propose to review these allotments;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. Govt. accommodation have been allotted to political parties and social institutions in Delhi. However Govt. accommodation is not allotted to politicians and their family members unless they are holding a bublic office. In some cases where the politicians have held public office in past, such as Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Prime Ministers, Govt. accommodation have been allotted and after their demise surviving spouse has also been allotted/allowed retention of Govt. accommodation. In an exceptional case, widow of a former Deputy Prime Minister and widow of an ex-Union Cabinet Minister have also been allotted Govt. accommodation. A total of 41 units have been allotted to political parties and 8 units have been allotted to social institutions.

(c)to (f): The criteria/guidelines for allotment of Govt. accommodation to Political Parties has been revised by the Government.A gist of the policy/guidelines is furnished in Annexure to this reply.

Allotment made to the social institutions as per existing instructions are valid only upto the end of the current allotment period. The Non-Govt. Organization including social institutions will in future not be eligible for allotment of Govt. residential accommodation nor will any proposal for extension in present allotment period be considered except in national interest to meet international obligation with the approval of the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARED QUESTION NO. 750 FOR 29.2.2000.
ANNEXURE

1. The existing guidelines dated 6.12.91 provide for allotment of Type-VII accommodation in Delhi to Ex-Vice-Presidents/Prime Minsters and their spouses and the spouses of the ex-Presidents for their lifetime. However, allotment of Type-VIII accommodation has also been permitted by the Govt. with the approval of the competent authority. The ex-President is, under the President`s Pension Rules, eligible for allotment of Type-VIII accommodation.

2. Allotments made to the political parties in the past were governed as per provisions of OM dated 24.10.1985 and the relaxations made at the appropriate level.

3. The following revised guidelines have since been framed which are being notified shortly:-

(a) The National Political Parties which have been recognised as such by the Election Commission of India shall be allowed to retain/secure allotment of one house unit from the General Pool in Delhi for their office in Delhi on normal license fee.

(b) The said accommodation will be provided for a period of three years during which the party would acquire a plot of land in an institutional area and will construct its own accommodation for party office.

(c) One residential accommodation would be allotted/allowed to be retained by the party President of the recognised national party in case the party President does not have a house in Delhi, either of his/her own or allotted by Govt. in any other capacity.

(d) The facility of office will also be given to the State level political parties recognised by Election Commission of India provided it has in the opinion of the Accommodation Committee of the Cabinet adequate representation in Parliament and its case of allotment is approved by the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation on its merit.

(e) The other buildings allotted or in occupation of any political parties stand cancelled. However, a period of six months or upto the time the allotment had been made, whichever is earlier, would be given to the party to made alternative arrangement and vacate the Govt. accommodation.